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Def Doc 427

## "Tragedy of NICOLAEVSK"

May 15 (Sat) 1920

## Translation

Some of the Japanese residents of VLADIVOSTOK who once lived at NICOLAEVSK have recently organized an association called NICOLAEVSK-KAI for the purpose of collecting donations. Mr. OKAWA, Hirozaburo, an employee of the VLADIVOSTOK Branch of SHIMADA and Company, who reached TSURUGA from VLADIVOSTOK on 14th inst. in order to leave OTARU on 17th this month for NICOLAEVSK to console the survivors, related as follows <sup>int</sup> the circumstances of the Slaughter of Japanese at NICOLAEVSK. This story was originally brought by three members of the NICOLAEVSK Cooperative Society by the names of GONCHAROV, EFIMOV AND GAULINKO, who came from NICOLAEVSK to VLADIVOSTOK on April 2.

"It was early in February that a clash between the Bolsheviks and the Japanese forces broke out at NICOLAEVSK. At first, the enemy attacked and destroyed our wireless station which was situated on the outskirts of the city and the Japanese forces then retreated into the city, where they remained until about the middle of February. During that period, the Red Army sent a mission on two occasions to invite our army to surrender, but the Japanese refused it by executing the messengers. Therefore, on February 25th the enemy started negotiations for a truce through the Consulate and mutual understanding was reached on February 26th between the leaders of both armies who assembled in a hall and shook hands, whereupon the Japanese Army pledged to observe strict neutrality. Due to this arrangement, the White Army which had heretofore been supported by the

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Japanese forces came gradually to be subjected to pressure by the Red Army and the Bolsheviks, which resulted in the suicide of MEDVEDEV, White Army Fortress Commander, TOUYULIEV, Commandant of the Garrison, and GARS, Battalion Commander. The Bolsheviks became more arbitrary every day, and altogether 605 Russians, including fishery industrialists, customs officials and members of the Autonomous Association, who had anything to do with the Japanese Army and the White Army were apprehended one after another and were imprisoned by March 11.

On March 12, the anniversary of the revolution, they worked out a plan to stage a great demonstration and to hold simultaneously a grand official burial service in honor of the two members of the mission that went to urge surrender but were put to death some time before by the Japanese. Furthermore, they went so far as to demand disarmament of the Japanese forces by noon of the same day. Thereupon, the Japanese Army, in order to forestall this intolerable tyranny on the part of the Bolsheviks, resolutely started action at dawn on March 12, attacked and burned down the LEBELI & Company Building, the Red Army Headquarters and killed the commander and Bolshevik leaders, totaling 17. The Japanese Army advanced further and occupied the Telegraph Office, the Headquarters of the Fortress of the General Staff and an Officers' Mess Room, etc. The enemy however held the fortress, fired guns and occupied a half of the city, and thus they stood face to face with the Japanese forces.

Meanwhile, the enemy gradually regained their power and taking the offensive, and with guns and machine guns, launched fierce street fighting

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against our forces. The Officers' Mess Room and the Fortress Staff Headquarters changed hands several times between the two opposing armies until they, by the gun fire in this fighting, were burned down. Therefore, our army, abandoning the Telegraph Office, took position in the SHIMADA & Co Building and fought to the best of their power. However, as it was a wooden house, it fell an easy victim to the firing. This took place at 1 p.m. on March 12. The house, having been burned down in a twinkling, our army decided to defend in two separate groups, one in the Battalion Headquarters and the other in the Consulate Building, in which Consul ISHIDA and Japanese residents had taken refuge. The enemy then encircled these two buildings and first attacked the Consulate which held in it a large number of non-combatants. All the Japanese who took shelter in the Consulate armed themselves and determined to defend to the death with the small number of Japanese soldiers who were there. The said Consulate Building was also wooden, so that it could not withstand long fierce attack of the enemy, which caused many casualties in no time among the Japanese. This building also started fire on the afternoon of March 13, the majority of the refugees fell in the battle and only 27 or 28 were finally left alive. Everyone of the survivors was more or less wounded and exhausted. They had spent all their ammunition and were unable to continue further resistance. Yet, unwilling to be taken prisoners, so shouting "BANZAI" they all throw themselves into the fire to be burned to death.

Having executed this wholesale massacre of the Japanese in the Consulate Building, which presented a scene of an extreme ghastliness, the

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Bolsheviks turned their main force to bear upon the Japanese Battalion Headquarters, our only remaining position. While our army kept on fighting with considerable casualties, an order for a truce reached, on the afternoon of March 14, from the Japanese and the Russian armies at NIJNAROVSK, which at last brought the Bolshevik troops to cease attacking. They delivered the Japanese Army a Japanese interpreter whom they had taken prisoner and thus suspended hostilities. The Japanese who survived this disaster were 120 soldiers and 10 civilian refugees, totaling 130, 40 of whom were wounded and sick. After the armistice the Battalion Headquarters was moved to a Russian barrack, where those survivors are being subjected to the same treatment as prisoners of war. I may add in this connection that Mrs. SHIMADA, Tama, wife of the proprietor of SHIMADA & Co was reported to have remained at NICOLAEVSK and killed herself by plunging into the fire together with her children. This, however, proved a false report because she has been recuperating under Mr. SHIMADA's parental roof at FUKUROCHO, NAGASAKI City."

A special dispatch from TSURUGA

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Translation

Certificate of Source of Document (No. 7 A)

I, a member of the Investigation Department of the ASAHI Newspaper Company, hereby certify that the document attached hereto in Japanese consisting of 3 pages, entitled "The Tragedy of NICOLAUS" is an exact copy of the article originally carried in the May 5, 1920 issue of the TOKYO ASAHI Newspaper.

At Tokyo

On this 25th day of February 1947

WATANABE, Tatsunosuke (Seal)

I hereby certify that the above signature and seal were affixed hereto in my presence.

At the same place

At the same date

Witness: INOUE, Minoru (Seal)

Translation Certificate

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大正九年五月十五日（土）

悲憤ナリシ尼港

在蒲湖邦人ニシテ嘗テニコライフスクニ在留セル者  
ニシテ今回ニコライフスク會ナルモノヲ組織シ義捐  
金ヲ募集シ、本月十七日小隊出發ニコライフスクニ  
至リ生存者ヲ慰問スベク十四日蒲湖ヨリ敬賀ニ來レ  
ル島田商會蒲湖支店員及川兵三郎氏ハ四月二日ニコ  
ライフスクヨリ蒲湖ニ來レルニコライフスク購買組  
合員ゴンチャロク、エヒーモク、ガウリンコ三名ノ  
齊セルニコライフスク邦人虐殺事件ノ情況ヲ語レル  
ガ左ノ如シ

ニコライフスクニ於テ過激派ト日本軍ト衝突ヲ始メタ  
ルハ二月初旬ニテ最初敵軍ハ市外ニ在ル我無線電信局  
ヲ攻撃被襲シ我軍ハ市内ニ退却シテ二月中旬頃迄ニコ  
ライフスクニ居レリ其間赤衛軍ハ降伏勸告使ヲ我軍ニ  
二回送り來レルモ我軍ハ之ヲ死刑ニ處シテ拒否セル爲  
彼ハ更ニ二月十五日ヨリ領事館ヲ經由シテ段岡中止ノ  
交渉ヲ開始シ二十八日ニ至リ相互ノ諒解ヲ得兩軍幹部  
ハ一堂ニ集マリ握手シ日本軍ハ嚴正中立ヲ守ルコト、  
ナリタリ 是ガ爲從來日本軍ノ援助ノ下ニ立テ居タル  
白衛軍ハ赤衛軍及過激派ノ爲ニ極大壓迫ヲ加ヘテレ白  
衛軍要塞司令官メドエネデフ徳茂司令官トウユリヨフ

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ガールス大隊長ノ三名ハ逆ニ自殺スルニ至リ過激派ノ  
 横暴日ニ達ダシク日本軍及白衛軍ニ關係アル露西亞人  
 ヲ片端ヨリ捕ヘ始メ漁業家税關吏自治會員等ニシテ三  
 月十一日迄ニ拘禁サレタル者六百五名ニ達シ十二日ノ  
 革命紀念日ニ一大示威運動ノ計畫ヲ立テ同時ニ義ニ日  
 本軍ニ投サレタル勳陣使二名ノ公式退避ヲ盛大ニ行ム  
 同日正午ヲ期シテ日本軍ノ武装解除ヲ要求スルニ至レ  
 リ茲ニ於テ日本軍ハ此度シ難キ過激派ノ横暴ニ對シ機  
 先ヲ制スベク十二日未明蹶起シテ赤衛軍司令部タル、  
 メー、ベリ商會ヲ攻撃シ燒拂ノ司令官過激派首領連十  
 七名ヲ殺シ尙連シテ電信局要塞參謀本部將校集會所等  
 ヲ占領セリ 敵ハ要塞ニ立籠リ大砲ヲ放チテ市中ノ半  
 面ヲ占領シ我軍ニ對峙セリ而シテ敵ハ漸次勢力ヲ得來  
 リ機關銃大砲ヲ以テ攻勢ニ出デ我軍トノ間ニ猛烈ナル  
 市街戰ヲ行ヒ將校集會所要塞參謀部ヲ交ル々々數回環  
 還シ相戰ヒタルガ此戰鬪ニ依ル砲火ノ爲メ兩者共燒失  
 スルニ至リタル爲メ我軍ハ電信局ヲモ放棄シテ島田商  
 會ニ依リ力戰ヘルモ木造ナリシカバ砲火ノ爲メ一塔  
 リモナク火ヲ發シタリ時ニ三月十二日午後一時見ル々  
 々中ニ同商會ハ燒落チタレバ我軍ハ大隊本部ト石田領  
 事及ビ在留邦人ノ避難セル領事館トニ分レテ守備ス  
 ルコト、ナリタルガ敵ハ之ヲ包圍シテ先ヅ此ノ非戰鬪

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員多キ領事館ノ攻撃ヲ開始シ領事館ニ避難セル邦人ハ  
 全部武装シテ若干ノ日本兵ト共ニ死守スルニ決シタル  
 モ同館モ木造ナル爲メ支フル力ナク猛烈ナル敵ノ攻撃  
 ニヨリ戦死負傷者續々相次ギ是モ火災ヲ起スニ至リ  
 十三日午後ニハ大部分殲レテ最後ニハ生存者僅ニ廿七  
 八名トナリ而モ多少ノ傷ヲ被ラザルハナク勢力盡キ彈  
 丸モ盡キテ抵抗全ク不可能トナリシモ俘虜トナルヲ屑  
 シトセズ萬歳ヲ高唱シ全部火中ニ飛込ミテ焼死セリ  
 此甚慘悲壯ノ限リヲ盡シタル領事館ノ邦人盡テ行ヒ  
 タル後通敵派ハ強リ一箇所ナル日本軍大隊本部ニ主力  
 ヲ向ケ我軍亦之ト應戦シテ戦死負傷者ヲ出シ戦闘ヲ繼  
 續中十四日午後ハバロフスクヨリ日露兩軍ノ休戦命令  
 達シタル爲メ通敵派軍ハ漸ク攻撃ヲ止メ俘虜トシタル  
 日本通譯ヲ我軍ニ引渡シ休戦セリ生存セルモノハ軍人  
 百二十名避難民十名全部デ百三十名ニテ傷病者ハ四十  
 名ニ達シ居リテ休戦後ハ大隊本部モ露西兵營ニ移リ  
 俘虜同様ノ待遇ヲ受ケツヽアリ 因ニ島田商會主夫人  
 タマ子ハ當時ニコライフスクニ居リ子供等ト共ニ火中  
 ニ没ジテ死シタルガ如ク傳ヘラレタルモ夫人ハ病氣ニ  
 テ保養ノ爲メ島田氏ノ實家ナル長崎市袋町ニ療養シ居  
 レバ右ハ訛傳ナリト(教賀特電)

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文藝成立ニ關スル證明書

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昭和二十二年二月二十三日

於 朝日新聞社

渡邊 辰之助印

右署名捺印ハ私ノ面前ニ於テナサレタルモノナルコト  
ヲ證明ス

同日於同所

立會人 井 上

實印